

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An assembly having information to be secured, such information exemplified by a coding, identification, PIN number or the like, comprising:

~~an object~~ a value document on which the information is to be secured, and a ~~security cover sticker~~ scratch label having a base area smaller than the value document ~~object~~ and covering the information to be secured, wherein,

an additional layer is disposed between the value document ~~object~~ and the information to be secured,

said additional layer comprising an ink layer or lacquer layer disposed directly on the ~~object~~ value document, and

the adhesive strength of the additional layer to the scratch label ~~cover sticker~~ is greater at least in partial areas than the adhesive strength of the additional layer to the value document ~~object~~.

2. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the information to be secured is printed on the additional layer by an ink jet process.

3. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the information to be secured is applied to the additional layer in black.

4. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the additional layer is formed by an ink layer.

5. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the additional layer is formed by a multi-ply layer and comprises at least one ~~upper~~ ink layer and at least one ~~lacquer~~ further ink layer or lacquer layer disposed between the value document ~~object~~ and the upper ink layer as ~~the ink layer or lacquer layer~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 5, wherein the lacquer layer is formed by a UV lacquer (34).

7. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 4, wherein the ink layer located under the information to be secured is formed by a monochrome ink layer.

8. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 4, wherein the color of the ink layer located under the information to be secured is coordinated with the color of the information to be secured to produce high contrast between the information to be secured and the ink layer located thereunder.

9. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 5, wherein the multiply layer comprises a second ink layer disposed between the lacquer layer and the upper ink layer located under the information to be secured.

10. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 9, wherein the second ink layer has an irregular pattern.

11. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 9, wherein the second ink layer contains blind information whose character corresponds to the information to be secured.

12. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive strength of the additional layer to the scratch label ~~cover sticker~~ is greater than the adhesive strength of the additional layer to the value document ~~object~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive strength of the additional layer to the scratch label ~~cover sticker~~ is greater than the adhesive strength of the additional layer to the ~~object~~ value document in first areas, and the adhesive strength of the additional layer to the scratch label ~~cover sticker~~ is smaller than the adhesive strength of the additional layer to the value document ~~object~~ in second areas.

14. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 13, wherein the first and second areas form a fine-scale structure.

15. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 13, wherein the first and second areas form an irregular structure.

16. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 13, wherein the size and shape of the first and second areas are coordinated with the information to be secured such that ~~it~~ the information is no longer decipherable after removal of the scratch label ~~cover sticker~~.

17. (Previously Presented) The assembly according to claim 13, wherein the additional layer has means for effecting locally different adjustment of adhesive strength.

18. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 17, wherein the means for effecting locally different adjustment of adhesive strength comprises a non-stick lacquer applied to the value document object locally between the information to be secured and the value document object.

19. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 17, wherein the means for effecting locally different adjustment of adhesive strength comprises an adhesion promoter applied to the value document object locally between the information to be secured and the value document object.

20. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 17, wherein the means for effecting locally different adjustment of adhesive strength is applied to the value document object by printing.

21. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the additional layer is printed on the value document object.

22. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 21, wherein the additional layer is printed on the value document object by an offset process.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[An]]~~ assembly according to claim 1, wherein the information to be secured is a character string, exemplified by a secret number or PIN number.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Canceled).

26. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the additional layer is formed on the value document object in a size of an information field comprising the information to be secured.

27. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to claim 1, wherein the scratch label cover sticker has a larger base area than the additional layer.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for producing an assembly with information to be secured, exemplified by a coding, identification, PIN number or the like, comprising the steps:

- a) supplying ~~an object~~ a value document to be provided with the information,
- b) applying an additional layer to the value document ~~object~~ with a first, uniform or locally different adhesive strength to the value document ~~object~~, the additional layer comprising an ink layer or lacquer layer disposed directly on the value document ~~object~~,
- c) applying the information to be secured to the additional layer, and
- d) covering the information to be secured with a scratch label ~~security cover sticker~~ having a smaller base area than the value document ~~object~~ and a second adhesive strength to the additional layer, the second adhesive strength being greater at least in partial areas than the first adhesive strength of the additional layer to the value document ~~object~~.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, including applying an ink layer as the additional layer in step b).

30. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 28, wherein:

a lacquer layer which adjusts the adhesive strength of the additional layer to the ~~object~~ value document is applied to the value document ~~object~~ as ~~[[the]]~~ said ink layer or lacquer layer, and ~~[[an]]~~ a further ink layer is applied to the lacquer layer.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 30, including:

applying a further ink layer with another color and/or another pattern to the ink layer present.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 28, wherein in step b) means for locally different adjustment of adhesive strength are applied to the value document ~~object~~, in particular a non-stick lacquer and/or an adhesion promoter is applied locally to the value document ~~object~~.

33. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, wherein the layers applied in step b) are printed on, preferably printed by an offset process.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, wherein the information to be secured is printed on the additional layer by an ink jet process in step c).

35. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 28, wherein the additional layer is applied to the value document object in the size of an information field comprising the information to be secured.

36. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 28, wherein the scratch label ~~cover sticker~~ is selected so as to have a greater base area than the additional layer.